

Mr. Kallman,
Mr. Chairman of the Governing Body,
Mr. Chairman of the P.T.A.
Guests,
Friends.

It is quite natural for one to ask - "What did I do to have such an honour bestowed upon me - the naming of the pavilion after me".

If this is as a result of my activities whilst my children were at school then I doubt whether I deserve it. It is quite possible that on occasions I could have done more for the school and my children. A case of one's best not being good enough. At all times my wife and I made it our goal and task to share our childrens school life with them. I found that one best possible manner in doing this was not to simply ask them at home how school went and to look at their marks, but to participate with them in all school activities - be it their academic life or their sport and other cultural activities. Hence my involvement in this school. This quite possibly assisted in getting a few projects at a new and unrecognised school - off the mark but this is not for me to judge. Nevertheless I tried to do my duty at all times in what I believed to be expected of me towards my home, school, town and community.

My family and I are proud Albertonians and, therefore, from the word go when I saw that my children would have to travel for their high school education the way I, my friends had to 25 years ago and those for quite a period after me, I realised that something had to be done. It is here the Late Mr. Harris and I brought the matter to a point with the Authorities.

Unfortunately, politics were such at the time that it was difficult to get the Authorities to realise that the English speaking sector in Alberton also had something to do with South Africa and more so particularly in Alberton where today undoubtedly I think English speaking at the very least constitutes half of the white population.

Politics aside, history has now shown that this school and other English Medium schools in Alberton have played their role in developing a society and community which to my mind is a masterpiece throughout South Africa. There has always been a cordial co-existence between the language groups in Alberton. There is no better example than the way the various schools of the different language groups co-operate. Thanks to the local Authority and its wonderful inhabitants - both English and Afrikaans speaking.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we today have a school pavilion at these vast sports grounds, there are change rooms and all that goes with a good sports complex. We have on these school grounds what the average village and town in Europe does not have, let alone the schools. Whereas a town like Alberton can probably boast of at least 12 similar sports facilities. We are indeed very privileged - especially the white sector of the population. If one has to travel through the rest of the world you will see that such facilities are not available.

In certain parts of the world the same school building is used in cycles of up to 2 - 3 times per day, i.e. you have 2 to 3 different school organisations using the same building at different hours, such is the shortage of money and space but at the same time such is the tremendous privilege and wealth that we have been blessed with in the Republic of South Africa.

Let us not misuse these facilities, let us strive to retain our privileges and our facilities and our rights. The only way in doing this is to stand behind our school organisations, our Principal and staff and to assist them to produce the leaders and educated people that this country so much needs for its future survival.

Let us all be proud of our heritage and culture, let us all continue to strive and retain the standard that Alberton High School in its short period of existence has become known for, let us be proud of what we have and let us carry it forth into the future.

Remember a poor school in a poor environment - they said to me - not very long ago - but this school showed us how to invest on the Stock Exchange and win first prize - not bad for a school in the outer Southern Suburbs. We shall not discuss the individual scholastic achievements and other sports achievements of some of our scholars.

Yes - if I had to elect a school again for my children to be educated I assure you I would once again have my children educated at this school, which when my children were first enrolled they were guinea pigs in the true sense in a new and unknown school. But thank God I feel well rewarded in the education and background that my children have today. I am pleased and proud when they are interviewed that they are able to say they were educated at Alberton High. I believe there are many parents that associate themselves with this pride when it comes to their children.

Reverting back to this pavilion, I always felt very proud that Alberton High School had the foresight and braveness especially those serving on the Governing Body and the P.T.A. to concern themselves with the future of the school facilities and as a result to purchase some of the remnants of Ellis Park. I assure you - purchasing the old stands of Ellis Park really gave me great pleasure and I must mention Chil Neervout here as probably being the mastermind together with Rod Conacher having arranged the availability of this particular pavilion - (MENTION NAMES) *Gegor*
Spook
Hadash
Benif
Piff
Hueser
Heys
Seitz
but to mention a few.

Why do I say that it pleased me - because to me Ellis Park was a reflection of South Africa's culture and heritage, many of us enjoyed many a match, many a test match, many an international match, some of us even played at Ellis Park, that wonderful glass house, the tunnel that allowed so many famous stars to run through to the playing field. Yet we saw fit to demolish it and put up a plastic basket. I doubt very much whether this was necessary. The money expended could have been used elsewhere, whilst at the same time the beauty of Ellis Park would have been retained. Howhere else in the world has this been done, grand stands, sporting fields have been repaired, but they have not been recycled the way our sports fields and especially Ellis Park has been subjected to.

Therefore, I am very proud to know that a remnant, a very important part of the grand stand at the old Ellis Park is today part of Alberton High School and bears my name - which I promise you for what it is worth gives me very personal satisfaction as I am a known sentimentalist.

I take this opportunity to thank you all for making this decision and rewarding my time and efforts spent in this manner. It was not at all expected. I now really feel that I have not done enough and that I will simply just have to continue trying to do more for this wonderful school, which already has given me so much in the education of my 3 children and other friend and family members.

I again thank you, may the Good Lord bless you all with strength, may we be blessed with health to see this school produce children that will make us proud - not only Alberton, but our entire South African community.

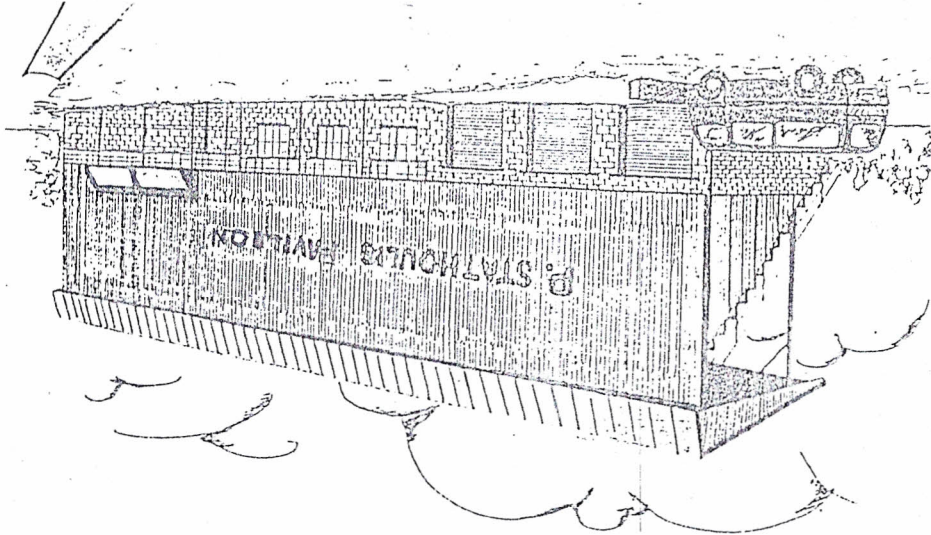
Thank you very much.



ALBERTON

HIGH

SCHOOL



INAUGURATION CEREMONY
26 APRIL 1986
AT 15H00

Dear Peter,

This is merely to confirm
and remind you.

Kind regards

Geared.

The Headmaster and Mrs. Kallman request the pleasure of
your company at the Inauguration of the P. Stathoulis
Pavilion on Saturday, 26 April 1986, at 15h00.

The ceremony will be followed by the serving of wine,
cheese and light snacks.

R.S.V.P. on or before 23 April 1986
869-4673